

REMARKS

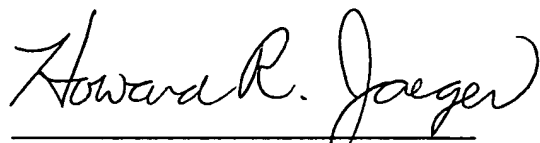
Claims 1-20 of the original PCT application have been canceled, without prejudice from the present US application. They are to be replaced by new claims 21-46, submitted herewith. Claims 21-46 are drawn to the same subject matter as original claims 1-20, but have been rewritten in a more standard form according to US practice. Original multiple dependent claims 3,8,19, and 20 have been rewritten as separate dependent claims.

New claims 21-46 represent 26 claims, including 1 independent claim and 25 dependent claims. This represents an additional 6 claims over and above the 20 claims paid for with the basic application filing fee. Although applicant has Small Entity status, a Verified Statement of same has not yet been filed. Accordingly, applicant should presently be charged for the additional claims at the regular entity rate. The additional claims fee is calculated on the accompanying application transmittal sheet. The original and a copy thereof are transmitted herewith. Authorization to charge the basic filing fee, the additional claims fees, and any additional fees that may be due with the filing of this application to Deposit Account 01-0035 is made thereon.

Dated: May 4, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

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